

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 IO-14

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-19 OMB-01

TRSE-00 PC-10 CU-04 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 /175 W

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R 020245Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
SECSTATE WASHDC 2684  
AMCONSUL BRISBANE  
CINCPAC  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY SUVA  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
USLO PEKING  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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DEPTO 43

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (RUSH)

SUBJ: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PORT MORESBY

1. SUMMARY. DURING DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH'S VISIT TO PAPUA  
NEW GUINEA, CHIEF MINISTER SOMARE AND FOREIGN MINISTER KIKI  
DESCRIBED FUTURE FOREIGN POLICY OF AN INDEPENDENT PNG AS NON-  
IDEOLOGICAL, CENTERED FIRST ON IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF POPULATION  
AND SECOND ON CONTINUED TIES WITH AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND  
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PACIFIC ISLANDS. RECOGNITION POLICY TERMED "UNIVERSALIST".  
DEPUTY SECRETARY AFFIRMED US WILL OPEN CONSULATE AT PORT MORESBY,

WILL SUPPORT PNG MEMBERSHIP IN UN, IS PREPARED TO PURSUE (WITHIN PREVAILING FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS) PROGRAM OF INCREASED CULTURAL CONTACT AND TO OPEN DISCUSSIONS ON PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN PNG. (END SUMMARY)

2. DURING FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 1 VISIT TO PORT MORESBY, DEPUTY SECRETARY KENNETH RUSH, AMBASSADOR GREEN AND PARTY MET WITH CHIEF MINISTER MICHAEL SOMARE, FOREIGN MINISTER MAORI KIKI, LEADER OF OPPOSITION TEI ABAL, FORMER EDUCATION (NOW COMMERCE) MINISTER EBIA OLEWALE, AND PRINCIPAL STAFF AND ASSEMBLY OFFICIALS. JOINT PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED WITH KIKI (SENT SEPTTEL).

3. CHIEF MINISTER SOMARE STRESSED THAT HIS "ELECTORATE BELIEVES NOT IN IDEOLOGY BUT IN GOODS COMING IN" AND THAT MAJOR EFFORT OF HIS ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE TO REDIRECT PRIORITIES OF GOVERNMENT TOWARD RURAL AREAS TO AVOID PROBLEMS OF PREMATURE URBANIZATION. NATIONAL UNITY REMAINS A MAJOR CONCERN AND ISSUE OF DEGREE OF LOCAL AUTONOMY TO BE GIVEN DISTRICTS IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION BY HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. TARGET DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE NOT SET, CONSTITUTION STILL BEING DRAFTED AND KEY ISSUES NOT YET RESOLVED BY HOUSE.

4. KIKI DESCRIBED PNG FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES AS BEGINNING WITH PURSUIT OF AID AND OTHER ADVANTAGES FOR PNG POPULATION, THEN MOVING OUTWARD TOWARD CONSIDERATIONS OF PACIFIC REGION. AS LARGEST PACIFIC ISLAND, PNG VIEWED WITH SOME SUSPICION BY OTHER ISLANDERS, HE CONCLUDED. PNG MUST CONSIDER THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FIRST, HE SAID, ONLY THEN COULD IT LOOK TOWARD SEA. FOR SEA, PNG COULD "SERVE AS A BRIDGE" TO PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS. PNG WOULD JOIN UN. ON THE LARGER GLOBAL ISSUES, HE EXPECTED PNG TO GO ALONG WITH AUSTRALIA AND THE U.S. " WITH THE SMALLER BOYS (THE PACIFIC ISLANDS) WE WILL GO IT ON OUR OWN".

5. KIKI STRESSED PNG HAD NO INTEREST IN IDEOLOGY AND CALLED HIS RECOGNITION POLICY "UNIVERSALIST". INTERESTING VIEWS ON TAIWAN SENT SEPTTEL. KIKI SUMMED UP "NEUTRAL" PNG FOREIGN POLICY AS "BEING WILLING TO MEET BOTH GOOD AND BAD PEOPLE". (IN EARLIER CONVERSATION, FOREIGN SECRETARY CONROY SAID PNG HAD NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTEREST IN EVEN "ALIGNING SELF WITH NON-ALIGNED BLOC").

6. RE INDONESIA KIKI POINTED OUT THAT PNG "UNFORTUNATELY" SHARES A COMMON BORDER, AND MUST NOT OPPOSE A NEIGHBOR WITH SO LARGE A POPULATION. CONROY HAD EARLIER STATED PNG GOVERNMENT CURRENTLY "STUDYING" IDEA OF JOINING QUARDIPARTITE GROUP (AUSTRALIA, NZ, PNG, INDONESIA) BUT WILL CONSULT WITH OTHER PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS FIRST.

7. FORMER EDUCATION MINISTER EBIA OLEWALE (WHO HAD BECOME

COMMERCE MINISTER IN PREVIOUS DAY'S CABINET SHAKE-UP) REVIEWED EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN PNG, STRESSING NEED TO MEET REALISTIC NEEDS AT VILLAGE LEVEL. DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH SAID PEACE CORPS MAY BE IN A POSITION TO OFFER SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF TEACHERS FOR SERVICE IN PNG. OLEWALE MENTIONED NEED FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS. DISCUSSIONS OF THESE POSSIBILITIES COULD BE INITIATED THROUGH US EMBASSY CANBERRA, DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH SAID. FUNDS SHOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENT AND VISITOR GRANTS AND VISITS BY AMERICAN SCHOLARS; LATER TO INCLUDE RESEARCH SCHOLARS WHO WOULD TEACH A YEAR IN PNG. STATE DEPARTMENT ALSO WILLING TO ASSIST IN MAKING CONTACTS FOR UNIVERSITY OF PNG WITH UNIVERSITIES AT GUAM AND HAWAII, BUT COULD NOT PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THAT AREA.

RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 02 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 28 JUN 2002  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PORT MORESBY  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (RUSH, KENNETH)  
**To:** WELLINGTON  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005